

Appl. No.: 10/657,021
Art Unit: 3711 Docket No.: B03-55
Reply to Office Action of August 25, 2004

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-14 appear in this application for the Examiner's review and consideration. The Examiner has acknowledged that claims 1 and 3-14 are directed to allowable subject matter. Claims 15-21 have been cancelled without prejudice to Applicants' right to file one or more continuing applications directed to any subject matter not presently claimed.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 15-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Nesbitt in view of Egashira. While Applicant respectfully disagrees with the rationale behind the rejection, in an effort to further prosecution of the above-captioned application, claims 15-21 have been cancelled, rendering the rejection moot.

For at least the above reason, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is believed to have been overcome. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal thereof.

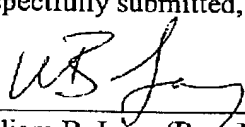
CONCLUSION

Based on the remarks set forth above, Applicant believes that all of the rejections have been overcome and the claims of the subject application are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any further concerns or believe that a discussion with the Applicant's attorney would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the attorney at the number below.

No fee is believed to be due for this submission. Should any other required fees be due, however, please charge them to Acushnet Company Deposit Account No. 502309.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 27, 2004



William B. Lacy (Reg. No. 48,619)
Patent Counsel
Acushnet Company

Phone: (508) 979-3540
Customer Number: 40990